

There are a number of interesting pieces of HIPAA information are included below. Of special interest may be:

- 1) CalOHI Info and Policy Memos on a Model Privacy Training Tool and HIPAA Transactions and Code Sets Compliance Testing
- 2) Various Privacy and TCS topics

As always: Please be sure to note that in some cases the information presented may be the opinion of the original author. We need to be sure to view it in the context of our own organizations and environment. You may need additional information, support, legal opinions and/or decision documentation when interpreting the rules.

My thanks to all the folks who have shared information for this e-news.
Thanks!!!

Ken

(916-654-2466 if needed)

Several items that may be of interest:

CalOHI Info Memo 2003-07 and Policy Memo 2003-21

[hipaalive] Re: TCS: Testing

HIPAA Electronic Transactions Standard - ATTACHMENT

Updated Information on DHHS Privacy Conferences

[hipaalive] PRIVACY final rule

HIPAA 101 Paper (1 of 1) & HIPAA Provider Readiness

Checklist - Below and see attachment

[hipaanotes] HIPAAnote - Vol. 3, No. 6 - 2/7/03

***** Info Memo 2003-07 and Policy Memo 2003-21 *****
>>> "Hart, Therese (OHI)" <THart@ohi.ca.gov> 02/07/03 01:40PM >>>
At CalOHI's Website at www.ohi.ca.gov you will find (Attached find):

- * Information Memorandum 2003-07, HIPAA Privacy Training
- * A flier for Train the Trainers on use of the Model HIPAA Privacy Training Tool
- * Policy Memorandum 2003-21, HIPAA Transactions and Code Sets Compliance Testing

Privacy Training is required to be completed by the April 14, 2003 compliance date. A HIPAA Privacy Work Group is currently developing a model tool for privacy training. The training program will be made available to state departments and interested parties free of charge. The training program incorporates non-program specific California information privacy laws. In addition, it is designed for customization and will be accompanied with instructions and a conversion tool allowing for customization to meet the specific needs of your business processes. The Privacy Work Group will

be providing a Train the Trainers session on March 6th, the flier with details is attached for your information.

<<2003-07 Privacy Training.doc>> <<Training Registration Flyer.pdf>>
<<2003-21 TCS Testing Policy Memo.doc>>

We welcome you to visit our website at www.ohi.ca.gov for all policies/procedures, preemption analysis, as well as other valuable information and links.

Therese Hart, Chief
Policy Management Branch
California Office of HIPAA Implementation (CalOHI)
thart@OHI.ca.gov
(916) 654-2660

***** [hipaalive] TCS: Testing *****
** HIPAAlive! From Phoenix Health Systems/HIPAAAdvisory.com **

Chris,

This is a common myth, and it is just not true. CMS does not "require" certification of the providers, and has never "required" them to certify.

There is a CMS program memorandum that says that providers whose transactions are certified in compliance by a third party entity acceptable to the Medicare contractor do not need to be tested for compliance again by the Medicare contractor before being put into production.

Last year CMS required its own contractors (Carriers, Intermediaries and DMERCs) to go through third party testing and certification for the May 2000 version of some of the IGs. As far as I know, CMS is not requiring its contractors to go through testing with the Addenda version of the IGs. In fact, CMS has stated that providers that are in production with the May 2000 version of the guides are not required to re-test when they switch to the Addenda version. (After three different versions, the Addenda should be adopted in a Final Rule any time soon.)

This could be why the mis-perception about Medicare requiring certification. They required it from their own contractors as part of the due diligence from CMS. It was part of their Independent Verification and Validation process.

There are many reasons why providers will want to have an independent assessment of their HIPAA EDI transaction capabilities. Being "required" to do so by CMS is not one of them.

Chris, as you describe the frustration of trying to exchange transactions with

a trading partner that does not meet basic format compliance, this is the same feedback we are getting from a good number of payers: when providers come to the payer pre-qualified by a third party certification, the test process with that provider is greatly reduced. It just makes sense, since that provider has done more due diligence.

Kepa Zubeldia
Claredi

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Apgar, Chris [<mailto:chris.apgar@providence.org>]
> Sent: Monday, January 27, 2003 10:52 AM
> To: HIPAAlive Discussion List
> Subject: [hipaalive] Re: TCS: Testing
>
> From the infamous payer perspective (and I think this would be true on the
> provider side), the end goal is to make sure the claim processes through,
> doesn't error out and includes the right information that leads to prompt
> payment. The requirement to test is not a regulatory one. It is a business
> one. Just because we both say we are "HIPAA compliant" doesn't mean
> each of
> our transactions are compliant or our systems can read the transaction in.
>
> We are requiring trading partners test with us before sending "live claims."
> This also is not a change from current practice. The only change is we are
> asking trading partners to certify their transactions to avoid the
> frustration of attempting to exchange transactions with basic format
> problems. As an aside, CMS already mandates providers certify with their
> certification vendor and I understand a number of states are moving along
> that path.
>
> Chris Apgar, CISSP
> HIPAA Compliance Officer
> Providence Health Plan

***** [hipaalive] PRIVACY final rule *****
** HIPAAlive! From Phoenix Health Systems/HIPAAAdvisory.com **
Here is the final rule - Dec. 28, 2000 and Aug. 14, 2002 Federal Register
- combined TXT of both into one.
42 pages and not difficult to read.
Happy reading.

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/combinedregtext.pdf>

Connie Bellamy, RN, CPHQ, CPHRM
Risk Management Specialist
Risk Management Department
State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company

*** HIPAA 101 Paper (1 of 1) & HIPAA Provider Readiness Checklist ****
***** SEE ATTACHMENT *****
>>> Kathy Styc 01/29/03 09:13AM >>>
Please let me know if you already receive these. Thanks.

>>> mcgowin@starband.net 01/28/03 07:50PM >>>
Attached are 2 documents. First, is the HIPAA 101 Paper (1st in series of ten papers designed for health care providers, on the electronic transactions and code sets requirements. The remaining 2-9 papers are forthcoming).
Second, is the HIPAA Provider Readiness Checklist. Both documents are aimed at the needs of the individual, or the smaller health care Provider community. For more information, call our CMS HIPAA Hotline at 1-866-282-0659 or visit CMS' HIPAA Website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/hipaa/adminsim/>

Barbara McGowin, CPC
Executive Recruiting
HIT Recruiting
(843) 824-8537
mcgowins@msn.com

***** Updated Information on DHHS Privacy Conferences *****
>>> Stanley Nachimson <SNachimson@CMS.HHS.GOV> 01/24/03 02:22PM
>>>
Below is the latest information on HHS' National HIPAA conferences - note the Chicago and NY links are now available, and we set up a special mail box for ADA related requests. As we asked last time, if you could send this information out to all of your relevant list serves, key organizations, and media contacts, it would be very helpful. If you have a web site and can post this, that would be appreciated as well. The target audience is providers, covered entities, etc. and not our own HHS staff because the seating at these conferences is very limited.
Again, your help is much appreciated!

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be convening four National Conferences on the HIPAA Privacy Rule. These one-day conferences will be held in San Diego, Atlanta, New York, and Chicago. The conferences are designed to provide an unprecedented opportunity to hear from and interact with officials who developed the Health Insurance

Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule and will be responsible for interpreting and enforcing the rule. The HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) will provide an expert faculty who will answer questions from attendees during question and answer sessions following their presentations.

What you will learn:

- * The principles underlying the Privacy Rule.
- * How the Privacy Rule creates a national floor of privacy protections
- * Who is a covered health care provider
- * The implications of being an affiliated covered entity, a hybrid, or in an organized health care arrangement
- * "Business associate" issues
- * What type of information is protected under the HIPAA Privacy Rule and what is meant by the terms "use", "disclosure", "minimum necessary", and "incidental disclosures"
- * The Notice of Privacy Practices requirement
- * When it is necessary to obtain an authorization to use or disclose PHI
- * The right of patient to access, amend, and obtain an accounting of disclosures of patient health information
- * When to use an authorization for research and when research may be conducted without an authorization
- * How research authorizations pre-dating the compliance date are treated
- * Appropriate administrative, technical and physical safeguards
- * The requirements to train the workforce on covered entity policies and procedures
- * The OCR compliant investigation and compliance review authority

REGISTRATION:

Information on registration, including registration fees, for the individual conferences can be found below. Please be advised that seating is limited and early registration is advisable. If you need reasonable accommodations because of a disability, such as conference materials in alternative formats, sign language interpreters, etc., send a message to ADA-HIPAA@hhs.gov at least 10 - 15 days before the conference.

San Diego, California - Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Co-sponsored with the University of California

To register online, please click on the link below:

<http://www.cvent.com/EventManagement/Summary/Summary.asp?code=&eCode=iktlkibilrdiieqlihiiloviikrlik&type>

(Please paste the entire link (both lines) into your browser to insure that you reach the site correctly)

Or for registration questions, contact Jill Collier at 858-822-4770 or e-mail at jcollier@ucsd.edu

Atlanta, Georgia - Tuesday, February 18, 2003

Co-sponsored with Emory Healthcare at Emory University and The
Morehouse
School of Medicine

To register online, please click on the link below:

http://www.gynob.emory.edu/rtc/conferences_hipaa.html

Or for registration questions, contact 404-523-1996 ext 102, or e-mail
jbsurre@emory.edu

Brooklyn, NY - Saturday, March 1, 2003

Co-sponsored with SUNY Downstate Medical Center

To register online, please click on the link below:

<http://www.downstate.edu/hipaa>.

Or for registration questions, contact 718-270-2422, or e-mail
ocme@downstate.edu

Chicago, Illinois - Sunday, March 2, 2003

Co-sponsored with WEDI and Finch University of Health Sciences-The
Chicago

Medical School

To register online, please click on the link below:

<http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/details%7E57.htm>

Or for registration questions, contact Lisa Berretta at 703-391-2743, or
e-mail lberretta@wedi.org

***** [hipaanotes] HIPAAnote - Vol. 3, No. 6 - 2/7/03 *****

>>> <info@phoenixhealth.com> 02/07/03 09:51AM >>>

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H I P A A n o t e -- Volume 3, Number 6 -- February 7, 2003

>>From Phoenix Health Systems--HIPAA Knowledge--HIPAA Solutions<<

=>Healthcare IT Consulting & Outsourcing<=

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Going to the HIMSS 2003 Conference in February?

STOP BY Phoenix Health Systems' Booth 815 -- and get a firsthand look at
our HIPAA Privacy Policy Template Suite, and our new Small Provider
Assessment and Planning Toolkit.

Visit <http://www.hipaadvisory.com> to learn more.

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This week's HIPAAnote...

*** The Time is Now for Transactions Testing ***

With the April 14 Transactions testing deadline growing close, all four February HIPAAnotes will be focused on this important topic. Remember that adopting the HIPAA standard electronic transactions has the potential to improve your organization's cash flow since it has a direct impact on your revenue cycle. And this claims and remittance processing cycle is, after all, the "bread and butter" of your organization.

It is critical that you commit adequate resources to the transactions testing project. A designated individual should be appointed to lead the initiative, but many others will need to be involved. Key components of your testing plan should include:

TRANSACTIONS:

- * Identify transactions to be implemented and tested:
 - Health Care Claims or Encounter
 - Eligibility for a Health Plan
 - Referral Certification and Authorization
 - Health Care Claim Status
 - Enrollment in a Plan
 - Payment and Remittance Advice
 - Premium Payments
- * Identify existing electronic transactions that must be converted to ANSI X12 (for example: UB92, NSF, 1500).
- * Identify existing paper transactions to be transitioned to ASC X12 formats (for example: eligibility checking, referrals, claim status).
- * Plan the sequencing of testing (and implementing) transactions.
- * Identify the applications impacted by implementing each new transaction.
- * Identify business processes impacted by implementing each new transaction.

YOUR TRADING PARTNERS:

You can't do it alone -- testing must be conducted as a collaborative effort of all involved parties. Considerations and decisions based on the above steps

must include communication with your trading partners (such as providers, payers, clearinghouses) in order to ensure successful implementation. Be sure to:

- * Understand your vendors' plans for product development or software upgrades.
- * Incorporate your vendors' expected dates for product delivery into your test plan.
- * Obtain written correspondence from your trading partners about remediation plans, sequencing and testing dates.

Your Test Plan should include:

- * Resources
- * Dates
- * Applications, processing
- * Interfaces
- * Files
- * Output (printouts)
- * Realistic allocated timeframes
- * Issues Identified
- * Issues Resolved
- * Status Updates
- * Resolutions
- * Trading Partners test plans
 - Clearinghouse
 - Bank (820)
 - Payer (provider)
- * Retesting

With all this in mind, hopefully, your transactions testing efforts are under way. If not, there is no time to waste - April 14 is only 66 days away!

In next week's HIPAAnote, we will provide guidance on working with your vendors.

For additional information, refer to the WEDI-SNIP Transaction testing white paper at: <http://www.hipaadvisory.com/action/wedipapers/transtesting.pdf>

Linda Ostach, Principal
Phoenix Health Systems

That's today's HIPAAnote...now, pass it along!

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For details, see: <http://www.hipaadvisory.com/AdvertisingSpecs.htm>

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HIPAAnotes are published weekly as a learning tool to help you and your associates stay tuned-in to HIPAA and its implications. Forward it to anyone with a "need to know" through your own internal mailing list, intranet or newsletter -- whatever works for you...

Our HIPAAcratic oath: We'll use your ideas for HIPAAnotes -- send them!
Randa Upham, Editor
D'Arcy Gue, Executive Editor

Our Other HIPAA resources:

HIPAAAdvisory web site: <http://www.hipaadvisory.com>

HIPAAAlert newsletter: <http://www.hipaalert.com>

HIPAAlive discussion list: <http://www.hipaalive.com>

HIPAAlive-Premium: <http://www.hipaadvisory.com/live/prem.htm>

HIPAAlive Doc Site: <http://www.hipaadvisory.com/MembersOnlySignup/>

* Join HIPAAlive-Premium & get a FREE Doc Site Membership! *

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